



TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

Certified Peer Recovery Specialist Code of Ethics

These principles will guide Tennessee Certified Peer Recovery Specialists in the various roles, relationships, and levels of responsibility in which they function professionally.

1. The primary responsibility of Certified Peer Recovery Specialists is to help peers achieve their own needs, wants, and goals.
2. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will maintain high standards of personal and professional conduct.
3. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will conduct themselves in a manner that fosters their own recovery.
4. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will openly share with peers, other CPRS's and non-peers their recovery stories from mental illness, substance abuse, or co-occurring disorders as appropriate for the situation in order to promote recovery and resiliency.
5. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists at all times will respect the rights and dignity of those they serve.
6. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will never intimidate, threaten, harass, use undue influence, use physical force, use verbal abuse, or make unwarranted promises of benefits to the individuals they serve.
7. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will not practice, condone, facilitate, or collaborate in any form of discrimination or harassment based on ethnicity, race, color, pregnancy, creed, veteran's status, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, marital status, political belief, mental or physical disability, or any other category protected by state and/or federal civil rights laws.
8. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will promote self-direction and decision making for those they serve.
9. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will respect the privacy and confidentiality of those they serve.
10. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will promote and support services that foster full integration of individuals into the communities of their choice.
11. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will be directed by the knowledge that all individuals have the right to live and function in the least restrictive and least intrusive environment.
12. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will not enter into dual relationships or commitments that conflict with the interests of those they serve.
13. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will never engage in sexual or other inappropriate activities with peers they serve.
14. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will not use illegal substances, misuse alcohol, or other drugs (including prescription medications).
15. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will keep current with emerging knowledge relevant to recovery and will share this knowledge with other Certified Peer Recovery Specialists.
16. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will not accept gifts of significant value from those they serve.
17. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will not provide services, either for employment or on a volunteer basis, without supervision from a behavioral health professional.
18. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists will not provide services beyond their qualifications. This includes diagnosing an illness, prescribing medications, or providing clinical services.